(b) if so, what are the details of the causes of delay and the cost differences due to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Delay in the completion of the Kahalgaon Thermal Power Station in Bihar of the National Thermal Power Corporation has been mostly on account of:-

(i) Break-up of erstwhile USSR resulting in delays and disruption of equipment supply.

(ii) Industrial relation problems.

(iii) Accident in boiler of Unit-I in October, 1992.

The delays have resulted mainly in increase in interest and incidental expenses during construction, estimated to be about Rs. 210 crores.

Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project

976. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to answer to unstarred Question 595 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th December, 1993 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a final decision regarding implementation of Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project in Kerala as a joint venture between M/s. ICMC Power Consortium Inc., U.S.A. and the National Thermal Power Corporation; and

(b) whether any other discussions have been initiated with OECF, Japan and others in connection with the above project and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) M/s. ICMC Power Consortium Inc. USA had discussions with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) regarding implementation of the project at NTPC's project site. It has been agreed to between NTPC and Consortium that NTPC would provide exclusivity for implementation of the project by them for a period of one year. During this period, the Consortium have agreed to carry out the specific tasks as per their discussions with NTPC. The Government of Kerala has been requested to consider signing of Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between Kerala State Electricity Board and the Promoters of the project.

(b) The project has been posed to the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) for financial assistance. Their acceptance is awaited.

लक्ष्मी विष्णु टैक्सटाइल मिल्स, शोलापुर को हुआ घाटा

977. **श्री सुशीलकुमार संभाजीराव शिन्दे:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि लक्ष्मी विष्णु मिल्स, शोलापुर घाटे में चल रही है और मिल के कर्मचारियों ने मांग की है कि इस मिल को सहकारिता के आधार पर चलाने के लिए उन्हें सौप दिया जाये;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार ने इस मामले में क्या निर्णय लिया है?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी): (क) जी, हां

(ख) और (ग) मैसर्स लक्ष्मी विष्णु टेक्सटाइल मिल्स के 1990-91 के बाद के मौजूदा अप्रेनीत घाटे 114.00 करोड़ रु० के हैं। महाराष्ट्र राज्य सरकार द्वारा उपलब्ध कराई गई सूचना के अनुसार राष्ट्रीय गिरनी कामगार संघ जो कि लक्ष्मी विष्णु मिल्स के कामगारों की एक मान्यता प्राप्त अनुमोदित यूनियन है, ने सहकारी आधार पर संचालन के लिए मिल को निम्नलिखित शर्तों के अधीन सौंपने का प्रस्ताव किया है—

1. कामगारों को 1 : 9 के आधार पर शेयर पूंजी दी जाए;

2. मिल की मशीनरी बहुत पुरानी होने के कारण निम्न ब्याज की दर पर दीर्घकालिक ऋण उपलब्ध कराया जाए;

राज्य सरकार ने कामगारों से अपने प्रस्ताव को औद्योगिक वित्तीय एवं पुनः निर्माण बोर्ड (बी आई एफ आर) को पेश करने का निर्देश दिया है जो कि मिल की

पुनर्वासन-सह-आधुनिकीकरण योजना पर विचार कर रहा है।

Export of cotton bales under Monopoly Cotton Purchase Scheme

978. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quota for export of cotton bales given to the Monopoly Cotton Purchase Scheme of Maharashtra for the current year;

(b) what was the demand made by the Scheme for export and what are the reasons for giving them low export quota;

(c) whether more quota for export of cotton will be given to the Maharastra Cotton Scheme;

(d) the reasons for not liberalising the export of cotton under the new policy of liberalisation; and

(e) whether it is a fact that export of cotton is not being liberalised because it comes in the way of the interests of the mill owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) During the Cotton Season 1993-94 total quota for export of cotton bales given to Maharashtra Federation is 50,000 bales.

(b) The Maharashtra Federation had placed a demand for export of 2 lakh bales of raw cotton. While releasing quota for export amongst different Federations and CCI the Government keeps in view their capacity and the need to extend buying support to different varieties of cotton according to fluctuations of prices.

(c) to (e) The Government have suspended export of cotton with effect from 18-1-94 as a temporary measure in view of the sharp increase in the prices of cotton leading to extreme hardship to the decentralised handloom and powerloom sector. Government's endeavour is to strike a careful balance between the interests of the cotton growers and mill owners on the one hand and that of the decentralised handloom and powerloom sector on the other.

Import of Cotton

979. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton has been imported in the country during 1993-94, if so, the quantity thereof;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in affirmative, the reasons for importing cotton despite the fact that the country has surplus cotton considering the carryover stock of cotton last year and its production this year; and

(c) whether it is a fact that cotton has been imported at the instance of and for the benefit of the mill owners lobby in the country and at the cost of the cotton growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) The Government has not imported cotton during the year 1993-94. However, exporting mills are permitted to import cotton under the Advance Licensing Scheme. During the first 3 months of the cotton year 1993-94 i.e. upto 30th November, 1993, 250 M.T. (approx. 15,000 bales) of cotton have been imported in India by exporting mills.

(c) No, Sir.

Long Term Extension of Monopoly Cotton Purchase Scheme

980. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand from the cotton growers of Maharashtra